

Remarks

Claims 1-11 and 13-18 are now pending in this application. Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11, 13, 14, and 16 and cancelled claim 12 to clarify the present invention. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application.

The Examiner indicated that claims 2-15 and 17 recite allowable subject matter. Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite the subject matter recited in claim 12. Therefore, Claim 1 and claims 1-11 and 13-15 are allowable.

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. patent 6,849,813 to Albrecht.

The rejection of claim 1 is no longer relevant due to the amendments of the claims.

Applicant has amended claim 16 to recite a step of submerging the at least one ingoing conductor and the at least two outgoing electrical conductors in a dielectric medium. Albrecht does not disclose submerging at least one ingoing conductor and at least two outgoing electrical conductors in a dielectric medium.

In view of the above, Albrecht does not disclose all elements of the present invention as recited in amended claim 16 or claims 17 and 18 that depend from claim 16. Since Albrecht does not disclose all elements of the present invention as recited in claims 16-18, the present

invention, as recited in claims 16-18, is not properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). For an anticipation rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) no difference may exist between the claimed invention and the reference disclosure. *See Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation v. Genentech, Inc.*, 18 U.S.P.Q. 841 (C.A.F.C. 1984).

Along these lines, anticipation requires the disclosure, in a cited reference, of each and every recitation, as set forth in the claims. *See Hodosh v. Block Drug Co.*, 229 U.S.P.Q. 182 (Fed. Cir. 1986); *Titanium Metals Corp. v. Banner*, 227 U.S.P.Q. 773 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *Orthokinetics, Inc. v. Safety Travel Chairs, Inc.*, 1 U.S.P.Q.2d 1081 (Fed. Cir. 1986); and *Akzo N.V. v. U.S. International Trade Commissioner*, 1 U.S.P.Q.2d 1081 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

In view of the above, the reference relied upon in the office action does not disclose patentable features of the present invention. Therefore, the reference relied upon in the office action does not anticipate the present invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection based upon the cited reference.

In conclusion, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance.

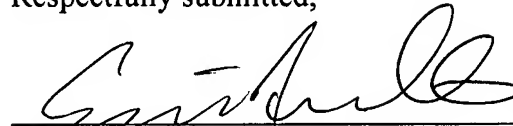
If an interview would advance the prosecution of this case, Applicant urges the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge fee insufficiency and credit

overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Date: 6/8/07

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Franklin", written over a horizontal line.

Eric J. Franklin, Reg. No. 37,134

Attorney for Applicant

Venable LLP

575 7th Street, NW

Washington, DC 20004

Telephone: 202-344-4936